



## 2016 Massachusetts Victim Rights Awards Award Nominations Packet

The Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA) and the Victim and Witness Assistance Board (VWAB) are proud to honor individuals who have made notable contributions to advancing victim rights and services and make a difference in the lives of victims and survivors in Massachusetts. MOVA seeks the submission of nominations for individual victim/survivors, providers and programs whose work exemplifies extraordinary commitment and accomplishments to be recognized during Victim Rights Month April 2016.

**Nominations can be made by completing the Award Nomination Form below, online, or by calling MOVA at (617) 586-1340 with all relevant information.**

### Nomination Guidelines:

1. For each nomination please provide only the following:
  - a. The name and contact information of the nominee, the total number of years s/he has been working in the field (if applicable), and a description of her/his current role (if applicable).
  - b. The name and contact information of two people who are supportive of the nomination.
  - c. Summary of unique nature and nominee's accomplishments in the field and the impact of their work on the lives of crime victims and survivors (please see attached form) **(500 word limit)**.
2. Nominations must be received at MOVA by **5:00 pm on Friday December 11, 2015.**

### Award Categories:

#### GERARD D. DOWNING LEADERSHIP AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Award Ceremony)*

The Gerard D. Downing Leadership Award is a prestigious honor for an agency leader, public or private, who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to advancing the rights of crime victims and is recognized by his or her colleagues for their efforts in advancing victim rights.

Last year's recipient of the 2015 Gerard D. Downing Leadership Award was former Attorney General Martha Coakley.

#### PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Award Ceremony)*

The Public Policy Advocacy Award is a prestigious honor for a survivor of crime who has transformed his/her experience of victimization into positive change through promoting legislation or advocating for policy changes that further rights and services to victims and survivors.

Last year's recipient of the 2015 Public Policy Advocacy Award was Annette Presti.

#### LEGISLATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Award Ceremony)*

The Legislator of the Year Award is a prestigious honor for a legislator who has made outstanding contributions to the Victim Rights Movement by promoting legislation and policy that furthers rights and services to victims and survivors.

Last year's recipient of the 2015 Legislator of the Year Award was Congresswoman Niki Tsongas.

MOVA reserves the right to assign award nominations to the most appropriate category and to confer some or all available awards.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Award Ceremony)*

The Access to Justice Award is a prestigious honor for an individual survivor, service provider, agency or organization (criminal justice and/or community based) whose leadership and outreach efforts have made victim rights and services more available and accessible to underserved populations. This award may be presented to up to two participants.

Last year's recipients of last year's Access to Justice Award were the Sex Offender Registry Board's Director of the Victim Services Unit, Judy Norton and the Community Legal Services and Counseling Center's Legal Director, Ellen Wilbur.

INNOVATION AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Award Ceremony)*

The Innovation Award is a prestigious honor for an individual survivor, service provider, agency or organization (criminal justice and/or community based) who has developed innovative programs or policies to help crime victims. This award may be presented to up to two participants.

Last year's recipients of the 2015 Innovations Award were the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office's Director of Youth Safety and Outreach, Jackie Lamont and the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center's Clinical Service Program.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Conference)*

Special Recognition Award is a prestigious honor for a survivor of crime who has transformed his/her experience of victimization into positive change, healing, and leadership in promoting rights and services for victims and survivors.

Last year's recipient of the 2015 Special Recognition Award were Heather and Jerry Mullin of Joanna's Place, and the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's Hearing Loss Peer Support Counselor, Shannon Silvestri.

ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR AWARD *(Awarded at the Victim Rights Conference)*

The Advocate of the Year Award is a prestigious honor for an individual from a public and/or community based agency who has made extraordinary contributions to the lives of victims and survivors. This award may be presented to up to two participants.

Last year's recipients of the 2015 Advocate of the Year Award were the Norfolk County District Attorney's Office's Director of the Special Victims Unit, Alberta DePesa and Children's Cove's Family Advocate, Katie Partin.

**2016 New Award Category:**

FUTURE LEADERS AWARD

The Future Leaders Award is a prestigious honor for a student at any level in their education who has dedicated their efforts to victims of crime within their community or statewide. He/or she has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills and courage through raising awareness, volunteering in the field, or taking a stand to promote change on an issue close to their heart.



## 2016 Award Nomination Information

**Please indicate the award category for which you are nominating this individual:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gerard D. Downing Leadership Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Policy Advocacy Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislator of the Year Award       | <input type="checkbox"/> Access to Justice Award      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Innovations Award                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Recognition Award    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate of the Year Award         | <input type="checkbox"/> Future Leaders Award         |

### ***Nominee Information***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***Nominator Information***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### ***References***

Please provide the names and contact information for two people who have been consulted about and support this nomination. These references may be contacted to assist in the selection process if necessary.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE FOR VICTIM  
ASSISTANCE

MOVA has the right to assign award nominations to the most appropriate category and to confer some or all available awards.



## **Narrative of Accomplishments (500 word limit)**

Please provide a brief narrative that includes, but is not limited to, the following information:

- The total number of years the nominee has been working with or on behalf victims and survivors, including a description of current role (if applicable).
- The ways in which the nominee's work (if applicable) has positively impacted the lives of crime victims and survivors.
- The nominee's overall history of contributions and/or leadership to the field of victim rights and services, including any unique and innovative accomplishments.
- Specific relevance of the nominee's career highlights or personal experiences to the category selected for your nomination.

**Please submit nominations by 5:00 pm on Friday December 11, 2015 to:**

Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA)  
One Ashburton Place, Suite 1101  
Boston, MA 02108  
Phone (617) 586-1340 Fax (617) 586-1367  
Email: [mov@state.ma.us](mailto:mov@state.ma.us)